GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3651
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Trade in Milk and Milk Products
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India"s exports of milk and milk products have declined drastically during the last three years and their Imports have registered an increase during the said period;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the impact of the fall in exports of these products on domestic prices of milk and milk products; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the imports of the said products and boost their exports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a & b): India's export of milk and milk products have declined from USD 547.40 million in 2013-14 to USD 198.00 million in 2014-15 and further to USD 115.07 million in 2015-16. However, India's import of milk and milk products have increased marginally from USD 35.33 million in 2013-14 to USD 46.34 million in 2014-15 and further to 49.05 million in 2015-16.

The share of export in production of milk and milk products is miniscule. Considering the miniscule share of such exports as part of the overall production of milk, its ability to impact the domestic price line is extremely limited. Moreover, domestic prices of any agriculture product depends on several factors such as demand and supply situation (both domestic and international), quality, price support operations etc. Thus, export is only one of the many factors which influence the domestic price.

(c): The import and export depends on several factors such as availability of surplus over and above the requirement, international demand & supply situation, quality standards in the importing countries, varieties traded, price competitiveness, diplomatic/humanitarian considerations, need to balance between remunerative prices to the producers/farmers and availability of products to common man at affordable prices etc.

Moreover, encouraging exports of agricultural products, including Dairy Products, is a continuous process. The Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Commerce, provides financial assistance to exporters through various components of its Plan Scheme viz. Infrastructure Development, Market Promotion, Quality Development and Transport Assistance. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.
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